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2025-06-02 Case number: NV-07916-23

Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) <u>kirjaamo@syke.fi</u> <u>transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi</u>

Consultation in accordance with Articles 4 and 5 of the Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding a planned offshore wind farm "Bothnia Offshore Sigma" in Sweden's exclusive economic zone.

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency notified Finland on the 10th of November 2023 of the developers plans to apply for a permit for the "Bothnia Offshore Sigma" wind farm. Finland replied to the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency that they request to participate in consultations in accordance with the Espoo Convention.

In accordance with Articles 4 and 5 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention), Sweden hereby invites Finland to submit comments on Sigma Offshore Wind AB environmental impact report (EIA) for the plans for the offshore windfarm project "Bothnia Offshore Sigma" in Sweden's territoral water.

The planned project

The developer, Sigma Offshore Wind AB, has now applied for construction, operation and decommissioning of the planned project Bothnia Offshore Sigma.

Bothnia Offshore Sigma is estimated to consist of a maximum of 143 wind turbines with a potential for 3 700 MW of installed power and an annual production of up to 13,6 TWh. The individual turbines within the wind farm will be coupled via an internal cable network that transmits the produced energy to one or more offshore substations (OSS) where the electricity will be converted and transmitted to shore through one or more connecting cables.

The construction and operation of wind turbines and associated projects in the Swedish EEZ, requires a permit from the Swedish Government in accordance with the Swedish EEZ Act (1992:1140). Government approval is also required by law of the continental shelf act (1966:314) to lay cables on the continental shelf, including both internal cables within the wind farm and connection to the shore.

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Upcoming process

The developer has now submitted an application and environmental impact assessment, in accordance with ssection 5 of the Swedish Economic Zone Act (1992:1140), to the government, the government has commissioned the county administrative board of Gävleborg to prepare the permit application.

Sweden kindly asks you to submit your comments no later than 13th of August 2025 and to:

- provide comments concerning the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project affecting your country.
- submit any comments you might receive from the public and the authorities in your country.

Kindly send the answer to this consultation by e-mail to: registrator@naturvardsverket.se. Please indicate Case number NV-07916-23 and "Sigma" in your answer.

This decision has been made digitally and therefore lacks signatures.

For the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Nanna Wikholm Head of Unit

> Richard Kristoffersson Point of Contact, Espoo Convention

Attachments in Swedish and Finnish

- Sigma Cover letter translations into Finnish
- Sigma Appendix 3 Environmental Impact Assessment (Finnish and Swedish)
- Sigma Appendix 3.1 Consultation Report (Finnish and Swedish)
- Sigma Appendix 3.3 Nautical Risk Analysis (Finnish and Swedish)
- Sigma Appendix 3.7 Marine Biological Study (Finnish and Swedish)
- Sigma Appendix 3.9 Birds (Finnish and Swedish)

Cc.

The Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Eleonora Rönström and Bastian Ljunggren